

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 26-31 are pending. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification, in particular, pages 3, 5, 11, 16, 19 and Figures 5 and 6, as originally filed. Claims 17-25 have been cancelled, and new claims 28-31 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Applicants' Response to the Claim Objection

Claim 7 has been objected to for including improper Markush language. In response, Claim 7 has been amended. In particular, the "or" has been replaced with "and." It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 7 is in accord with standard U.S. practice.

Applicants' Response to the Information Disclosure Statement Objection

The Examiner alleged that the Information Disclosure Statement (hereinafter "IDS") dated January 30, 2008 fails to comply with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97, 1.98 and MPEP §609. In particular, the Examiner alleged that the IDS fails to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(b)(5). Applicants respectfully traverse.

37 C.F.R. §1.98(b)(5) requires the title of the publication to be presented. The IDS includes the three titles of the respective publications: "Macromolecules"; "J. Phys. Chem B" and, "Polymer". The titles of the articles themselves are not required. This is evidenced by 37 C.F.R. §1.98(6)(5) which requires "relevant pages of the publication" to be incorporated. The page numbering is not to the numbering of pages of the article, but rather to the respective publication. For example, the Beck et al. article is three pages long. The page numbering is specified as pages 5537-5539 of "Polymer" 1996, 37 (24), not as pages 1-3 of Beck et al. It is respectfully submitted that the non-patent literature citations provided in the IDS are searchable by third parties and sufficient. Full consideration of the IDS is respectfully requested.

Applicants' Response to 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection over Short

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over WO 2004/040308 A1 to Short et al. (hereinafter "Short"). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner acknowledges that Short does not teach disassociation of the biological entity from plasma polymerized surface of an organic monomer, but alleges that Short:

...discloses that the interaction between the biological entity and the plasma polymerization surface of an organic monomer is non-covalent, electrostatic, hydrophilic or hydrophobic-ionic. Thus, to facilitate association between the biological entity and the plasma polymerized surface of an organic monomer, Short et al. suggests varying the pH, the negative charge of the carbohydrate, the positive charge of the plasma polymerized surface of an organic monomer, the use of phosphate buffer saline or a solution of physiologically ionic strength. Thus, at the time the invention was made, Short et al. establishes that these agents effect the association between the biological entity with the plasma polymerized surface of an organic monomer.

(Office Action, at pages 5-6).

Claim 1 has been amended. In particular, a recitation has been added to require the plasma polymerized surface to be of an organic monomer including an allylamine. In addition, the agent has been specified to have a salt concentration of between 100 mM to 2 M NaCl with the agent providing for selective disassociation of the biological entity from the plasma polymerized surface. Nowhere in Short is the selective disassociation of a biological entity from a plasma polymerized surface disclosed, taught or suggested.

Short is directed to a sugar binding surface. Specifically, Short teaches a process for immobilizing carbohydrates in their native form onto a plasma polymerized surface.

Applicants: Short et al.
Application No: 10/599,943
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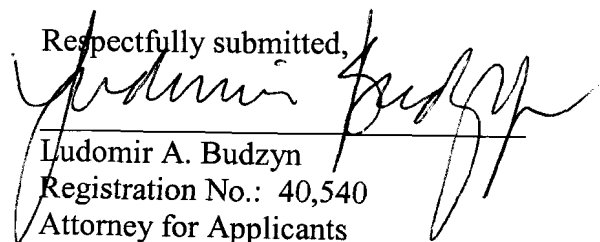
Short describes the desirability of immobilizing carbohydrates in their native form and the difficulties associated with implementing such a process.

Nowhere in Short is there disclosure for an agent having a salt concentration of between 100 mM NaCl to about 2 M NaCl disclosed or suggested for selectively disassociating a biological entity from a plasma polymerized plate. Moreover, there is no disclosure in Short to utilize an agent with the claimed range of salt concentration in connection with a plasma polymerized surface, particularly for selective disassociation of a biological entity.

As described in the specification, the present invention is directed to the selective removal or disassociation of a biological entity from a plasma polymerized surface, particularly a plasma polymerized surface of an organic monomer including allylamine.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-16 and 26-31, as amended herein, are patentable over Short.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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